

Law school ads: are they legit?

By MARTHA BLISS
Of the Emerald

Recognition of legal loopholes is a key quality for anyone in the law profession. Using them is a different story.

University law professor Eugene Scoles is convinced that many law schools are guilty of such use in their advertising.

Lacking accreditation by the American Bar Association (ABA), these particular schools proudly claim in bold print to their readers that they are indeed "fully accredited." Only in smaller print do they mention that this accreditation is from a state bar rather than the ABA. And since only ABA accreditation is acceptable throughout the nation, Scoles finds these schools guilty of deceptive advertising.

Scoles explains that a state bar will admit out-of-state lawyers only if they have graduated from ABA-accredited law schools. Graduates from a school accredited by a state bar but not by the ABA are limited to that state for their practice.

Scoles fears that a student deciding which law school to attend may not realize the limitations inherent in lacking ABA accreditation. By their bold advertising claims to full accreditation, these schools can easily deceive the student into thinking his accreditation is nationally recognized.

"Many students don't find out until they are enrolled that their school is not nationally accredited," Scoles says. "I am very critical of the kind of advertising that deceives them so. Once they are enrolled, it's too late to do much about it."

Law school advertisements appear frequently in college newspapers throughout the nation. The Emerald acknowledges carrying law school ads and warns its readers of their possible misinterpretation.

A former dean of the

University's law school, Scoles asserts that most of the schools which advertise deceptively are merely "money-making businesses." He says they "cropped up when law schools became in demand and capitalized on this demand." He tells of first-year law school flunkies and disbarred lawyers who "just go down the street and set up their own schools."

Scoles points to California for most of the "more marginal" law schools. He says the state has a "funny process" for founding law schools which allows easy entry into the market. Of California's 60-odd law schools, only half are state accredited. Only 15 are ABA accredited.

How do such marginal schools stay in business?

Many students attend law school with no intention of becoming lawyers. Instead, they either go into other professions which are law related, such as real estate, or go into paraprofessional work such as law clerking. Scoles sees no objections for law schools educating such students, and says that some schools are even catering precisely to them.

PSU...

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Hawkins said the publications board will rewrite Vanguard governance guidelines according to Johnson's up-coming decision, and will probably "take away responsibilities" of the editor. She said the next editor will have a hard time refusing CIA advertising unless he or she is "not scared and willing to undergo the harassment" she did.

An American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) decision rendered in March said the publications board did have the authority to establish policies for the Vanguard, and that the paper would "provide reasonable access by advertisers attempting to reach the student community."

The group also recommended that "student publications boards should consist of a majority of students...We hope that the policies and procedures of Portland State University would be revised." The PSU publications board is currently faculty dominated.

Hawkins said she was "real burned out" and indicated she intends to take "a long vacation."

Five programs vetoed

The ASUO Executive vetoed 1976-77 allocations for five incidental fee-funded programs Wednesday.

The budgets of PACE, Music and Action Now were vetoed so representatives can present further justification for line item requests turned down by the Incidental Fee Committee during April deliberations. The committee will hear arguments from the programs at 9:30 p.m. today.

The EMU budget was vetoed to provide a source for any additional funds the committee grants, according to Jim Davis, ASUO vice-president.

"Any decision the IFC makes after hearing these programs, we'll go along with," he added.

Budgets for the Student University Affairs Board (SUAB) and the EMU Board were also vetoed so they can be placed as top priority for 1976-77 reserves money for board member salaries. No change will occur in the present allocation for either program.

An executive veto is required before changes can be made in any budget.

Because the yearly increase in incidental fees is limited to seven per cent, when a budget is vetoed to permit programs to argue for more money, another budget, or budgets, must also be voted to provide a source for those funds.

Bookstore Election

8:15 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

MAY 3-7

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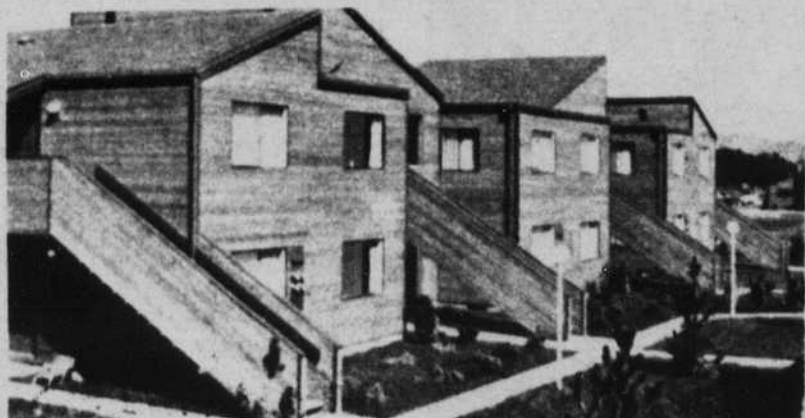
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